

The Saturday News

SEVENTH YEAR, No. 3.

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1911.

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Jasper's Note Book

THOSE who were newspaper and magazine readers at the time of the World's Fair in Chicago are reminded of the changes that a score of years brings about on scanning once more the features of the Infant Eulalia of Spain. She was the principal guest of honor at the Columbian exposition and her youthful beauty and charm were widely commented on. Now, after being out of the public eye in the interval, she comes to the fore once again as a result of her quarrel with King Alfonso, who objects to the unconventional views which she gives expression to in her recently published volume "The Thread of Life." But her pictures show a middle-aged lady, whose embonpoint is her outstanding characteristic.

It was heartless of her thus to cause a disturbance of our illusions. It is too much like going back to the home of our youth and expecting to spend a pleasant half-hour with dainty Mary Jones. You forget that many years have passed since last you crossed her path. You are accordingly shocked to find her fair, fat and forty, with the correctness of the first word of the alliteration in doubt but none whatever about the other two.

Perhaps you remember, though, the pleasant thought that Jerome K. Jerome gives us under such circumstances:

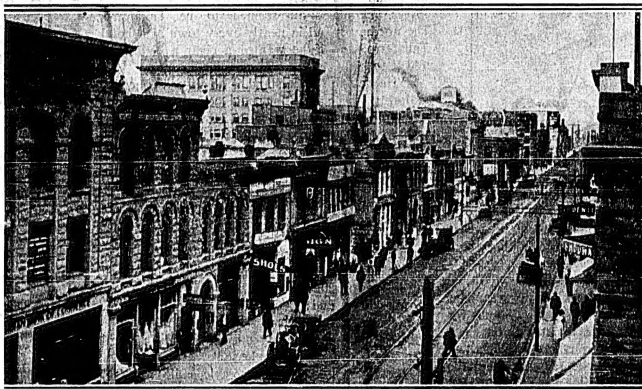
"It is the world that ages," he declares, "not me. The children cease their playing and grow grave, the lasses' eyes are dimmer. The hills are a little steeper, the milestones, surely, further apart. The songs the young men sing are less merry than the songs we used to sing. The days have grown a little colder, the wind a little keener. The wine has lost its flavor somewhat; the new humor is not like the old. The other boys are becoming dull and prosy; but we are not changed. It is the world that is growing old."

THE utterance of Rev. Father Combeau, in Winnipeg, on the question of marriages between Protestants and Catholics fully deserves all the criticism that it has met with. The interference of any church with the civil marriage bond cannot be tolerated. It is quite within its rights in refusing to recognize a marriage that has not been solemnized in accordance with its rights and in regarding the act of entering into wedlock as a sacrament rather than a contract. But so far as the state itself is concerned, it cannot allow these considerations to affect the validity of a ceremony enacted in accordance with its laws. To do so is to open the way to the most serious injustice. We must make our marriage regulations independent of any church. These must be the basis of the whole relation. Church laws may be superimposed on these but must not override them.

THE Winnipeg Tribune says "Roderick McKenzie, a Brandon farmer, paid \$764 duty and shipped two carloads of barley to the States. He received \$614 more for the two cars than if he had sold in Brandon city. Had reciprocity carried he would have had \$1,378 more for his two cars than he could have obtained at home. That's what the old song 'Rule Britannia,' sung in Ontario, cost us."

There is no reason to doubt that the facts are otherwise than as stated. In rejecting reciprocity, the Dominion made a large material sacrifice. There was not a sound economic argument against the proposal. It may be that other considerations were such that it was well we did make the sacrifice. This is what Mr. Foster argued in a speech the other day. But we should recognize just what we have done.

M R. James McCall, superintendent of the Edmonton schools, contributed an excellent story to the Journal's annual Christmas competition and fully deserved the first prize that was awarded to him. The old-timers of the Canadian west are an interesting study and their characters and experiences furnish the literary worker with much fine material. The field into which Mr. McCall has made his successful incursion can stand a lot of working yet. The series of articles which the late Mr. Charles Lewis Shaw and Mr. E. N. Barker contributed to the Saturday News were of no little value. The former dealt with the old-timer on the North Saskatchewan and the latter with his counterpart in the cattle country to the south. Both wrote from the most intimate knowledge and the result is that the files of this paper with their contributions should help the historical student of the future not a little in coming to ap-



Street Scene in Calgary, Alta. Eighth Avenue, looking southwest.

preciate the early phases of western Canadian development.

THE Edmonton council has decided not to purchase the property on College avenue between First and McDougall. This is the only open space along the river bank in the central portion of the city and it would be a misfortune to have it built over. The civic authorities are of the opinion that the price asked, \$50,000, is excessive. This was what was said a year or so ago when the question of making the purchase was again to the fore and the figure mentioned was about half the size. It is a shame that such a large sum has to be paid through the failure of the city to take a step which should have been regarded as imperative a half-dozen years ago. But it does not look as if there is any chance of securing the property at a smaller outlay and the city cannot afford to let it be diverted to ordinary uses.

THE figures which Ald. McInnis has prepared, showing the increase in value of the city's land holdings, furnish an object lesson for every municipality which has faith in its future. It should acquire as much land as possible for public purposes in the early stages of its growth. The most striking increases are those in the value of the larger parks and of the city hall square. The exhibition grounds, which cost \$26,696, are now worth \$220,000. The West End Park, which cost \$18,000, is put down at \$150,000. Laurier Park, which in time will become the city's finest pleasure ground, cost \$26,716, only four years ago, and is now believed to be worth \$102,000. The total cost of the city hall square was \$69,445, a large proportion of which is accounted for by a comparatively recent purchase, and it is now valued at half a million dollars.

The Saturday News in its second issue six years ago, commenced an agitation for more extensive purchases of land for park and other civic purposes. If what was urged in those articles had been followed out, the city would have been many hundreds of thousands of dollars richer. The east and west end parks were bought the following spring, with the striking result that the figures just quoted illustrate. But at the time a great many people thought that Mayor Charles May and his associates in the council had been guilty of a piece of colossal folly. There were a few who urged that the purchases should have been made along the river bank. But the prices asked appeared to be too high. They would look very small today. It is because Laurier Park, which was bought the next year, does overlook the river that it is bound to prove of such great advantage.

COMMISSIONER CANDY urges delay in the erection of a city hall for five years, as other things, notably an adequate water supply are needed worse. Further, he believes that the cost of building will be less in that time. Individual citizens who have waited for the latter to come down have been greatly disappointed in the past and there is no good reason for believing that the upward tendency will cease.

But, in the meanwhile, is it economy on the part of the city to have its departments scattered all over the place? At present some half-dozen buildings are occupied. How many will be necessary in seven or eight years' time? Mr. Candy urges the putting off of the project for five years, but it must not be forgotten that it would take at least

two or three years to bring it to completion once it is initiated. Even though work were started immediately, it would be some time in 1914 before the building could be taken possession of, and in the interval the city's services must suffer greatly in efficiency.

It is to be hoped that means will be found to retain the services of City Engineer Latourel. He has impressed everyone as an exceedingly capable official.

MOST remarkable municipal venture is to be attempted in Los Angeles, a city in which so many wonderful things, from dynamite outrages to aviation record-breaking, occur. It has been decided to establish a municipal newspaper.

The appropriation for its support is to be \$700 a week, which will seem enormous to the taxpayer and paltry to the publisher. It is to give all the municipal news, it is to be impartial on religion and national politics, but it may argue for those municipal issues that are "in harmony with the official policies of the city." All parties that have polled 3 per cent. of the votes of the city at the last election shall receive a regular assignment of space in order to air their alleged opinions. The mayor and members of the council may have half a column, while independent candidates may have five inches free and as much more as they like to pay for. This extraordinary production may solicit advertisements, and it will be circulated without charge.

It may be said in all seriousness, declares the San Francisco Argonaut, that it is just such frothy folly as this that has made possible the victory of the Socialists. They are both due to the hysterical litch to "do something," wholly irrespective of what that something is. Added to this is the craving to be heard; to be seen, to be somebody, that underlies half the agitation of the day. What prospect could be more delightful to the reformer than that of a newspaper column always at his service for the display of his half-baked and half-witted enthusiasms, his frenzied yelps for restrictive legislation, and all with the comfortable assurance that it will be carried free to every voter in the city at a cost of \$100 a day.

There is no need of such a newspaper. It would be an unqualified nuisance. No one would read it except those who wrote it. The regular newspapers already print all the municipal news that the public wish to have, and would be delighted to print it all if there were a demand for it. No kind of worthy opinion need go unexpressed, since all newspapers are glad to give variety to their columns by the insertion of temperately worded correspondence. The municipal newspaper is simply one of the freaks that are the curse of modern political life and that are born of vanity and hubbub.

DID the Gaekwar of Baroda intend to insult George V. when he appeared at the Delhi Durbar in "casual" dress, the other potentates being magnificently arrayed, and bowed but once to the King-Emperor? Was the look which he gave the crowd when he turned around intended to express contempt? These are questions which are agitating opinion in India, as well as causing the people at home considerable anxiety.

In a country like India such an incident takes on a much larger significance than it ever could in the civilization of the West. The Gaekwar is one

of the most influential of the hereditary native rulers. He came through Canada a year ago on his way to the Coronation and spent some time at Banff. While in the Old Country he became mixed up in a scandal which is now being aired in the divorce courts. On his return home, he became responsible for a large-sized agitation by arranging a marriage between his daughter and the Maharajah of Gwalior, who has one wife living.

Altogether he is giving the government more trouble than is to its liking. It has induced him to make a statement regarding the alleged discourtesy at the Durbar. This, he declares, was not intended and anything that he did that was out of the way was due to "nervous confusion." His son who is at Harvard University, has given out an interview to the effect that it is all "rot" about his father being disloyal. But with India in the state that it is, most Britishers would like further reassurance.

The Gaekwar is a despot within his own "native state," peopled by some two million souls, and has unlimited wealth at his disposal. His daily personal expenses are said to amount to over \$2,000. It is not surprising therefore that he should be considered well worth watching.

M R. GRIGG, the representative of the British Board of Trade in Canada, estimates in a report to his department that there is a greater area of cultivable land in Alberta than in any other province. He puts this at 96,433,000 acres and Saskatchewan second with 93,455,000. The estimate is necessarily a conservative one. There are undoubtedly vast areas of good land in the northern part of the province, the exact extent of which can only be determined when it is opened up by railway communication.

If Alberta has the greatest agricultural possibilities of any member of the Canadian confederation, and it has been proven that within her borders sixty per cent. of all the coal in the Dominion is to be found, it should not be difficult to forecast the future that is assured her.

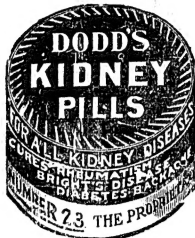
THEIR Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught are to see their first hockey match in Ottawa this Saturday evening. It may be a trifle trying for the Duchess, but the Duke is an old campaigner and should enjoy the experience.

THE New Theatre enterprise, which was floated in New York some two years ago, with the object of providing dramatic attractions of a high educational order, has been abandoned after costing several million dollars. The news will be received with regret by all who wish to see the stage brought to a higher level. But it serves to illustrate anew the impossibility of moving in advance of public taste. Theatre managers will supply their patrons with the exact class of plays that they show they want. The only way to improve the standard is to show appreciation of what is clean and good, by attending such plays in large numbers. There is no use in decrying the theatre as an institution. We shall always have it with us. What we should try to do is to keep it in the right lines.

THE Toronto Weekly Sun, throws an interesting sidelight on political conditions in the riding of South Ontario. It surprised everyone by electing a Liberal to the Provincial House the other day.

In the recent Dominion contest, according to the Sun, Oshawa Liberals, who opposed reciprocity, went back on Mr. Fowke in such numbers that Oshawa gave a majority against him of 243. These same anti-reciprocity Liberals, after the Dominion contest was over, made it clear to Mr. Mowbray, a farmer who had been selected as Liberal candidate for the Legislature, that they would not support him because he had supported Mr. Fowke in the reciprocity campaign. Mr. Mowbray then stepped to one side and allowed the nomination to go to Mr. Sinclair, Mayor of Oshawa. Sinclair secured a Liberal majority of 136 in Oshawa, and had a majority in the whole riding of 200.

There is nothing unique about such a situation with Urban voters are not in the habit of stickiness of their party when they believe its policy affects their interests adversely. But in the British Columbia, on having the farmers' land, he raises cattle, fruit and much as to the



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The census shows that there are 75,000 less women in Alberta than there are men. Now watch for letters from your sisters, consins and aunts down east telling you that they think it about time they paid that visit to you they had been talking about for so long.

The editor of the Christmas Globe complains that he finds it almost impossible to buy humor for his publication. He offered a hundred dollars last summer for the best humorous sketch submitted by a Canadian. The result, he says, would make the angels weep, and the editor has still the hundred dollars, no award having been made.

Why didn't he ask for something serious. Then he would have received something to exercise his visbles. It's the same way in other lines. How many productions of "Hamlet," and "The Merchant of Venice" have been responsible for unrestrained mirth, while gloom most profound was on every countenance when "The Private Secretary" was being given.

Many years ago in a boarding-school for boys the principal was a learned clergyman, a preacher of long sermons and a strict grammarian. One night after ten o'clock taps, when all the boys should have been in bed, he was passing silently through the dormitory when he heard sounds of revelry from a darkened room. He rapped on the door—silence within, then:

"Who's there?"

"It's me—the principal. Open the door."

"Ha, ha, ha-na! You're a liar! If it was the doctor he would say 'It is I'."

Seeing the force of this argument, the doctor passed on.

Clerk: I would like to get off early, sir, as my wife wants me to help in the church decorations on Christmas Eve.

The Manager: Can't possibly do it.

Clerk: Thank you, sir. You are very kind.

"Mother, if anything should happen to the king of England, who would be king?" asked the son of the man who had often been a candidate for office.

"The prince of Wales," his mother answered.

"If the prince of Wales should die, who would be king then?"

"The mother hesitated. She stammered something or other. It was plain she really didn't know who would succeed the prince of Wales. Then the boy interrupted her:

"Well, he said with a sigh, 'anyhow, I hope father won't try for it.'"

There is no doubt that the tying of a piece of string round the finger is a really good aid to a poor memory; but there is well-authenticated case of a man who tied a piece of cotton around his finger in the morning to remind him to get his hair cut.

On the way home to dinner that evening he noticed the piece of cotton.

"Oh, yes, I remember," he said.

And, smiling proudly, he entered the accustomed shop and sat down before the tonsorial operator.

"Er—yes, sir?" said the artist, puzzled inquiry in his tones.

"Eh? Oh, yes; cut my hair please," commanded the absent-minded one curtly.

"Why, certainly, sir, if you wish it," said the artist. "But you won't mind my mentioning the fact that I cut it this morning, sir, will you?"

A certain shopkeeper the other day advertised for an assistant, and when a candidate presented himself, he said: "Yes, I want a bright young man, to be partly outdoors and partly behind the counter."

The youth looked rather alarmed for a moment, and then murmured, "Why, gov'nor, what becomes of me when the door slams?"

They were discussing the temperance question. "I am in favor of wine and spirits," said the great orator. "I am an overworked man, and every afternoon I have forty or fifty letters to write. Well, in these circumstances, I find a bottle

of champagne with the evening meal a great help."

"Does it help you to answer the letters?" an amateur analyst asked.

"Oh, no," said the financier; "but after it I don't care a hang whether I answer them or not." Senator Rayner told at a dinner in Baltimore a story of the South.

"A northerner," he said, "was surprised during a southern tour by the number of Talliaferros he found everywhere. Doctors, lawyers, undertakers, clothiers—all seemed to be Talliaferro. The northerner put in nearly every town at a hotel Talliaferro, and if he wanted a cigar a Talliaferro sold it to him.

"He couldn't understand it at all—till one day motoring through a splendid country, he saw a tremendous mill that bore in vast letters the inscription, 'Talliaferro Manufacturing Company.'"

"Oh," said he, "so they turn them out by steam."

Miss Rose Bud: "Now Mr. Compton, what are you going to buy at my table? We have home-made cakes, glass-cloths, tidles and aprons. I am sure you want some of each.

Mr. Compton: Oh, thanks awfully; have you any kisses for sale?

Miss Rose Bud: "Certainly, five dollars each. How many will you have?"

Mr. Compton (handing out the money): "I'll take two; good measure, please."

Miss Rose Bud (with serene smile): "Oh, yes, we are particular about that. Miss Autumn Leaf, will you deliver two kisses to Mr. Compton?" (Miss Autumn Leaf is forty in the shade, and paralytically masculine.)

Mr. Compton: "You are more than kind. Dobson" (turning to his man who is carrying his parcels) "just take this purchase from Miss Autumn Leaf."

The present-day young man rarely gets left even at a church bazar.

A man, known by his friends to be rather "close," has had many a passage at arms with his wife by reason of that very "closeness."

On one occasion a friend had the misfortune to enter just as the pair were ending an argument, touching some question of household expenditure. The friend was just in time to hear the husband say:

"Marie, you cannot hoodwink me in these matters. Do you think that I have lived all these years for nothing?"

"I shouldn't be at all surprised," was the crisp reply.

For many months after Mr. and Mrs. Farnear had returned from their European trip they talked about the wonders they had seen. Mrs. F. was especially great when friends were present. Then she simply gushed on the subject.

"Oh, the gorge at Vandervell!" she cried, and turned enthusiastically to her husband. "You haven't forgotten that gorgeous gorge, have you, dear?"

"The gorge at the Beau Hotel, do you mean?" queried her husband. "By Jove, no! I'll always remember that particular gorge. Hang it all it was about the finest square meal we ever got on the Continent!"

WILLING TO HELP.

Father: "What! You want to marry my daughter? Why, sir, you can't support her. I can hardly do it myself."

Suitor (blankly): "C—can't we chip in together?"

CONSUMPTION OF SPIRITS IN
THE UNITED STATES.

Following what was said in these columns a short time ago as to the comparative consumption of spirits in the United States and other countries comes the statement that for the year ending June 30 last the quantity of spirits distilled in the United States was greater than in any previous year on record. The total was 175,000,000 gallons, exceeding the previous total by 7,000,000 gallons, or 4 per cent. It seems difficult to reconcile this increase in production with the corresponding decrease in area over which liquor may legally be sold.

A HANGMAN AS EVANGELIST.

James Berry, for a long time official hangman of England, recently arrived in New York for the purpose of entering on a campaign as evangelist in the United States and Canada. As assistant hangman Berry aided in the execution of five hundred persons in Great Britain, and as chief hangman he conducted 193 to the scaffold. He says the reason he quit eighteen years ago was because he had hanged two persons, a man and woman, who were subsequently proved to be innocent. Shortly after that he was converted by the Wesleyan Church, and that, he says, helped him to realize that hanging his fellowmen and women was not a fit occupation for a Christian. Berry is 61 years, but still in the prime of life.

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THE INVESTOR

The controversy goes on over the location of G.T.P. At Ottawa, last week, Chief Commissioner Mahee used this language:

"If any private individual had done what the Grand Trunk Pacific has attempted to do in this case, he would have been in the penitentiary and rightly so. I have never known of a more deliberate attempt to deprive an individual of his rights, and I want to say so most emphatically."

"An order will issue compelling the Grand Trunk Pacific to locate its station at the point at which it agreed, and an injunction will issue against their carrying out their own proposal."

This was the clincher which Chairman Mahee, gave the Grand Trunk Pacific at the conclusion of an argument in the appeal of Robert Kelly, of Vancouver, for the fulfillment of a contract by which the G.T.P. agreed to locate its station near Hazelton, B.C., on lot 82. After the agreement had been accepted, the company proposed to change the location of the station to lot 851, and so advertised all over the continent.

But Mr. Kelly was supported by practically the whole mercantile community of old Hazelton. The people of Hazelton quite realize that when the G.T.P. is built they will be wiped off the map, but they have located New Hazelton, and they want their rights respected, and respected they will be.

The chief commissioner was most emphatic in his denunciation of the railway company, and more than once declared that so far as lay in his power he would put an end to the exploitation of public lands by railway companies, or anybody else, when they were a violation of solemn agreements.

A London letter says:

The interviews recently given by the Duke of Sutherland and other British investors dealing with their schemes in Canada are exciting the ire of English land reformers who assure the Duke that if he would apply his money and brains to the development of the land in this country there would be no need to emigrate farmers to Canada.

Probably the real reason which determined the Duke to invest money in Canada has not been recorded, but others who have made extensive investments there—notably Lord Newlon—have lost no time in stating that there was more security than in this country. Of course this has reference to the British Land Tax, but it is also an eloquent tribute to the progress of the Dominion, which is having a considerable effect on those who had the Britisher's traditional pride in the safety of his investments in this country.

During the year the stream of investments from Great Britain to Canada has been enormous, and it is only the beginning of a much greater current. Encouraged by the action of men like the Duke of Sutherland other English peers and men with big estates are arranging to invest in the Dominion and I am informed that the number of inquiries at the various offices in London is unprecedented. Since the inception of the land tax a number of big estates have been broken up. The result has been that thousands of tenant farmers are turning toward Canada. With the relation existing between misters and men for centuries suddenly snapped, the farmers have been unable to adjust themselves to the new conditions.

The small holdings scheme is not yet a satisfactory substitute and the opportunities in Canada are being eagerly analysed both by capital and labor. Then the return of the British journalists have been signalled by the publication of numerous articles all having one text—the Prosperity of the Dominion. This is all good for Canada and the new emigration commissioner, Mr. Arthur Hawkes, will have plenty of room for his activities.

On the other hand there is a growing feeling against emigration being fostered by the press which circulates among the class from which most emigrants spring. Particularly is this the case in Scotland and Ireland and Canadian officials who have been to these countries all bring back the same tale of the growing difficulty of properly conducting their work. In Scotland it has become almost a national question and Sir John Jardine recently said that steps ought to be taken to prevent the depopulation of the countryside. The greatest lovers in Canada's favor are the successful men and women who come over and revisit their old homes, who bring with them evidence of prosperity.

A few of the more active brokers of Montreal were discussing, the other day, who was the biggest money-maker of the more prominent Montreal capitalists. The unanimous manner in which they agreed upon the question indicated that if one were to guess that Mr. H. S. Holt, President of the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company, was the lucky one, they would come pretty near to being right. Mr. Holt really seems to have a genius for money-making, very largely because he picks out his investments and enterprises with extreme care. For the past couple of years Mr. Holt, in a general

way, seems to have kept away from the stock market and has been devoting the greater part of his time and attention to real estate, more especially in Montreal, and some profits which he has made on deals are said to be little short of incredible. Mr. Holt seems to get into quite a number of things and they nearly all turn out to be good ones.

Mr. James Ross has been an interesting type of a cumulator, more especially because he never seems to want to stay with a thing very long, but prefers to turn it over.

Mr. C. R. Hosmer has a reputation of being quite a money-maker, but he has always given his attention, more or less, to the stock market, and there are very few men who can do so who do not occasionally make heavy losses, even though on the average they come out well on their operations.

For a time Mr. D. Lorne McGibbon gave a good deal of his time to the Wall Street market, and it is understood that it was in his operations there that he laid the foundation of his present very large fortune. Subsequently he gave more attention to industrial enterprises, and it is taking all his time to work these out.

From a purely stock market standpoint, Mr. Rodolphe Forget probably had made more real money out of the market during the past year than any other operator in Canada. He has a tremendous following, which enables him to distribute stocks to very great advantage. Of course, one of his great strokes of the year was in connection with the reorganization plans of the Toronto Railway, and the opinion on the "Street" in Montreal was that Mr. Forget had made something close to a million dollars out of this one deal.

A few years ago Mr. R. B. Angus, the President of the Bank of Montreal, was regarded as the biggest money-getter in the country, and yet very few people ever heard of him or any of his deals. It is believed, however, that the bulk of his fortune was made out of C.P.R. and land investments in the Canadian Northwest.—Canadian Courier.

It is often said by outsiders that Westerners let their optimism run away with them. But when we are to say about the following from some "Impressions of Canada" that are appearing in the Investors' Chronicle, published in London, England:

"We may be certain that town lands in Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver and all the leading cities will rise very much higher in value. The richest Canadian gold mine today is suburban land in Toronto and Montreal. I should say that five miles out of Toronto the land will be worth as much as land in Westminster or Charing Cross before the year 1915 (or say 1920) is with us. Fabulous profits will be earned in these two cities through land increment, because in the course of time they will outgrow Paris and possibly New York in size and population. Toronto is not only the capital of Ontario, but it is the gateway of the Cobalt and Porcupine mining fields and will be more important than Johannesburg ever was, by reason of the marvelous silver and gold developments of these regions alone. And Toronto is likely to become the city which the King of England will choose as his residence when he makes that annual visit to the Dominion, that I foreshadowed in my first article."

This is strange language to be found in a sober financial journal. No doubt Montreal and Toronto will grow to be very much larger than they are. But has their recent growth been due in very large part, to western development. Are they likely to continue to act as wholesale and manufacturing centres for the west to the same extent in the future? Is a very large part of our trade with the outside world not likely to go west by way of the Pacific ports with the completing of new Transcontinentals and the opening of the Panama canal? Can anyone study the geography of Canada or the statistics of the past decade or so and not come to the conclusion that before many years there will be more people west of the Great Lakes than east of them? Why, if there is to be a change of national capital, should it be made to Toronto instead of to a point closer to the centre of population?

Mr. Joshua Fletcher, former president of the Alberta Farmers' Association, has just returned from Grande Prairie, where he went last June. He states that the settlement is growing rapidly and it is prosperous. An area of twenty miles square is now well settled and the limits of settlements are receding fast. The crops this year were fairly good and threshing has been finished in good time. Oats are now selling for \$1 per bushel where scarcely one year ago they brought \$2. Feed is plentiful and stock is thriving this winter.

"I expected to find a country where the winters were ice-bound and severe but I find instead at Grande Prairie a climate which is at least equal to that in this section of the country. As a matter of fact we get more warm weather up north. But

(Continued on Page Four.)

A GREAT RAILWAY PROJECT

A line of railway now extends from Cape Town, 2,316 miles north, to within 280 miles of Lake Tanganyika. Another line has been pushed from Cairo south to El Obeid, within 1,200 miles of Lake Tanganyika.

These are the two ends of Rhodes' great Cape-to-Cairo line. With a gap of some 1,600 miles filled in at the middle it will be possible to take a car at Cairo and proceed across the equator to Cape Town without change.

The line, when completed, will be one of the greatest scenic routes of the world. The southern end, already constructed, passes for hundreds of miles over a country extending northward from Cape Town that is like unto our western prairies; it passes through Kimberley, the world's greatest diamond reservoir; it touches Johannesburg, where one-third of the world's gold supply is being secured; it spans the Victoria Falls of the Zambesi by a bridge 420 feet above the river bed and so near the falls, two and one-half times the height of Niagara, that the windows of the coaches have to be closed to keep out the spray. The other end, pushing southward from Cairo, passes Assuan where the world's greatest dam exists for the purpose of holding back water for the irrigation of lower Egypt; from it a glimpse can be had of those pyramids which were monuments of antiquity when London was a cluster of mud huts; it goes beneath the shadow of Thebes which was a ruin when Athens and Rome were young; it has for one of the stations by the way Khartoum in which Gordon died. The portion yet to be built will cut through that tropical Africa which Livingstone first opened to civilization and which is today the one great game reserve of the world. Nor will the road lack in commercial importance, even aside from the service rendered in opening Africa from north to south. Eight lines already built will form connections with it to the east or west and three more will be finished in 1914.

The scheme may not be carried through exactly as Rhodes planned it. His idea was to have an "all red" line—wholly through British territory. There is now a block of German territory 600 miles wide in the middle of the route to be traversed. Unless Britain can succeed in making a trade of some other part of Africa for this strip the line will of necessity be international in character. But that will not be a bad thing. International lines such as the Grand Trunk and C.P.R. are bonds of peace between Canada and the United States. May not a similar line serve the same purpose in Africa?

JAMES BUCHANAN.

James Buchanan, the big whisky distiller of England, has just given \$50,000 to the Tariff Reform League to mark the election of Bonar Law to the leadership of the Unionist party, says an English exchange.

Buchanan is one of the "characters" of London, where the firm of which he is head has his offices. Hitherto he has been known, outside of business, chiefly as a racer of horses on the flat and he has been decidedly successful from a financial viewpoint. He is distinctly "horsey" in appearance, seldom dressing in anything but rather loud checks and plaids and a flat-topped hat. If you didn't happen to know him when he passed you on the street you would most likely mistake him for one of the fast disappearing drivers of London's horse buses.

He was born in Canada, like Bonar Law, but he belongs to a Perthshire family. He still has large interests in Canada, despite his residence in England, and with Lord Aberdeen, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, as partner, he owns 20,000 acres in British Columbia where he raises cattle, fruit and wheat.

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Special delivery of
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PUBLIC NOTICE

We hereby announce that we have disposed of our lease and office at No. 3 May Street, City, and that hereafter no work will be taken in nor done there by us. For the more convenience of our west end customers and the general public, we have located a branch shop at No. 762 Jasper West, South side, corner Ninth street. This place will be fitted up in a first-class shape so as to take care of all short order work as well as goods for Cleaning and Dyeing.

CARL HENNINGSEN'S
DYE WORKS

406 Fraser Avenue
Main Phone 1728

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the provisions of the Irrigation Act, the St. Albert Collieries Company, Limited, have filed the necessary memorial and plans required by Sections 13 and 15 of the said Act, with the Commissioner of Irrigation at Calgary, Alberta.

The applicants apply for the right to divert one-fourth of one cubic foot of water per second from the Sturgeon River, at a point on River Lot 54, Township 53, Range 25, West of the 4th Meridian, for other purposes, and for the right to construct the necessary works as shown by the memorial and plans filed, to enable the water so diverted to be used for the said other purposes in the collieries.

The undermentioned lands are also affected by right of way for the proposed works, viz.: River Lot 54, and the Northwest quarter of section 28, in township 53, range 25, west of the 4th Meridian.

Dated at St. Albert, Alberta, this 28th day of November, 1911.

ST. ALBERT COLLIERIES
LIMITED

By Short, Cross & Biggar, their
solicitors.
3-6 Applicants.

WHERE NEGROES ARE GOING AHEAD

In Cape Colony the white population has decreased by 16,825 in seven years, while negroes have increased in the same time by 54,346, and in British South Africa the increase in negroes has during that time been four times as great as that of the increase in whites. The negro problem promises to be a very serious one for South Africa in the future.

THE INVESTOR

(Continued from Page Three.)

In discussing the effort of the Edmonton Board of Trade to discourage real estate wild catting, the Montreal Witness says editorially:

"Not specially in Edmonton, perhaps less there than elsewhere, wild cat real estate propositions are being offered by means of glowing advertising, which in many cases is gross and deliberate misrepresentation of the facts. Such advertising is not done in local publications, but appeals to those too far away to know the facts. It is only by chance that it comes to the attention of the people on the spot, to their astonishment and indignation. It is not plain what can be done by local legislation to check the prevailing orgy of speculation in so-called city lots. If a man chooses to buy a farm three or four miles from the nearest point at which there is any demand for lots for actual building purposes, have it laid out in squares 33x120 feet, and offer these little squares to the public as building lots, each at the price he paid per acre a few weeks ago, nothing can be done to stop the practice, so long as enough people are found gullible enough to hand out money for them.

But those who have the future of the country at heart do not fail to realize that this mad energy expended in putting on one market subdivision after subdivision, long after all possible demand for legitimate purposes for years to come has been amply provided for, must eventually result in disaster to the whole country. The 'ultimate holder' must eventually be reached; then what? There is calamity in store for the ultimate holder. But to the country that is the smallest part of the harm. The West is in need of vast amounts of outside capital. The very richness of its resources demands that money must be poured into the country for many years to come. Money must be borrowed by the farmer to improve his farm, or to buy cattle to stock it; it must be borrowed by owners of vacant city property to erect much needed houses and places of business; it is needed to promote various industrial enterprises designed to utilize the country's wealth. Canada must retain the confidence of the conservative investor in Great Britain and Europe. If he gets frightened, nothing can save our West, and with it the country, from a financial panic and period of business depression. Development of the West would be retarded for years.

"It will be said that the conservative investor referred to is not interested in and is not affected by these get-rich-quick subdivisions. But suppose there are a hundred thousand 'suckers,' largely servant girls, school teachers, widows, and family men of small means, scattered over Eastern Canada, the United States and Great Britain, who find that they have been 'stung,' and that their valuable building lots are unsalable, and have an intrinsic value based on their ability to grow cabbages and potatoes, will not these people decry everything connected with Western Canada, tell everybody that they have been swindled, write letters to the papers, and do many things to destroy confidence in the wonderful resources of that country. How long will it take this to affect conservative investors whose money we must have to develop our resources? The real estate section of the Edmonton Board of Trade, to which the matter was referred by the Board, has asked for severe restrictions as to maps which mislead or do not indicate the distance from the centre of the town on which property offered for sale depends, also for the punishment of those making misleading statements in advertisements, and that these penalties extend to advertisements published in Alberta with regard to lots elsewhere. As, however, such advertisements usually appear in other jurisdictions than the province in which the wrong is done, there is a difficulty in getting at the matter of provincial law."

The Monetary Times says in reference to the same subject:

"The real estate section of the board are arranging to handle the matter energetically. It is doubtful if the government can be persuaded to enact the legislation requested, but it is believed that the fact that such a body has considered it necessary to take action will have a value in warning the unwary, and will serve as a disclaimer on the part of legitimate business interests in Edmonton of responsibility for the practices condemned.

"It is to be understood that the action of the board is in no sense a reflection on the merits of legitimate western investments. No one realizes more clearly than their members the many factors tending to a steady and constant increase of value of well-situated Edmonton and other western property or of mortgage investments. There is every need in Canada just now for conservatism and caution. We are enjoying prosperous times, and have the full confidence of the British and foreign investor. We do not want to compel outside influences to regulate our economic conditions, but this will undoubtedly be the case unless the conservative men of the Dominion themselves regulate the matter by action such as taken by the Edmonton board of trade, and similar movements.

which might brave the inconveniences of pioneer-settlers are all sifted. That is, the poorer element which are now homesteaders on the Prairie. These best of all is the really exceptional class of settlers living within reasonable distance of a railway have not the hardihood to reach the Prairie. While the Elson route is the best to the north, it passes over one of the most disheartening stretches of road imaginable and it is little wonder that fortunes have been lost along those hillsides by intending homesteaders.

That Greater Edmonton will receive almost immeasurable trade from the northwest after the advent of a railway is his firm belief. He tells of the wonderful resources of the Peace River domain, and he foresees a great population headed that way within a short time. He says that at the present time if the roads would improve, the cities here would be deluged with residents from the north who will purchase their next year's grub stake at local stores.

The directors of the Eastern Townships bank have entered into an agreement with the Canadian Bank of Commerce for the sale of the business and assets of the Eastern Townships bank to the Canadian Bank of Commerce. Each \$100 share of the Eastern Townships bank stock will be exchanged for two shares (par value \$50 each) of stock of the Canadian Bank of Commerce.

The combined capital and reserve of the two banks aggregates \$26,705,090. This will bring the Commerce up very close to the Bank of Montreal in point of resources. The latter bank has very close to \$30,000,000 in capital and reserve.

The movement to open Whyte avenue through the University grounds in Strathcona is making headway, and there is little reason to doubt that it will be carried through.

S. Hyde, of Pierre, S.D., reputed to be the wealthiest man in South Dakota, a real estate operator, was found guilty last week on three counts of using the mails to defraud, with a maximum penalty of \$1,500, fifty-four months in prison or both.

Hyde's activities in promoting the sales of town lots at Pierre led to his indictment.

Mr. K. N. McFee, the London broker, whose death is announced, was a Canadian who had made his way to the forefront of the financial world of the old land. He was a visitor to Edmonton about two years ago.

The biggest deal in northern Saskatchewan farm lands which has ever come to the attention of the Prince Albert Registry office has been completed. The Canadian Northern Railway is transferring a land grant to the Northern Saskatchewan Land Company, Limited, and the latter company is paying \$901,921.70 for the lands involved. The lands in question are located at Tisdale, Birch Hills, Melfort and Kinistline districts, and comprise townships 42 and 47, ranges 15 to 25, west of the second meridian. The registration and title fees for this deal approximate \$1,175.



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THE FOLLOWING SUB-DIVISIONS ARE IN DEMAND:

River Lots 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18; Hudson Bay Reserve, Groat, Inglewood, Glenora, Westmount, Hempriggs, Westgrove, Huff Estate, Bremner, Jasper Place, Capital Hill, North Inglewood, Hagmann, Evanston, Westwood, Beechmount, Dorval, Northcote, Delton, Fairview, Norwood, Eastwood, Mount Lawn, Victoria Place, City Park Annex, Parkdale, Cromdale, Bellevue, Rosslyn, Queen Mary Park, Grand Trunk Annex, Kensington, Elm Park, Calder, City View, Lauderdale, North Delton, Delton Addition, The Highlands, North Jasper Place, Dominion Park, Waldemer, Brooklyn, Barton, G.T.P. Addition.

It only costs you one cent to mail me full particulars of property you have for sale, which may net you hundreds of dollars quickly. My phone is 4265, and my office is where at any time I would be pleased to have you call to give any details.

Wishing every man, woman and child a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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3 Nights Starting Jan. 1st

SPECIAL NEW YEAR'S MATINEE.

MR. C. JAMES BANCROFT AND HIS ENGLISH COMPANY

The Private Secretary

A Company of the very highest standard of English Artists. New Scenery and Costumes.

Mr. Bancroft appeared before Their Excellencies Earl Grey and suite at Ottawa, Oct. 10th and 11th and every one was in paroxysms of laughter most of the time, laughing until they had to wipe their eyes and gasp for breath.

It's funnier than ever and skilfully produced, and will be acknowledged by both press and public to be the best evening's laugh that has visited the capital.

Prices, \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c; Gallery, 50c.

CANADIAN NORTHERN R.Y. EXCURSIONS to the OLD COUNTRY and EUROPE

Rail Tickets on sale at all Stations in Canada, November 10 to December 31st, 1911.

Five Months Limit
Stop Overs, Extension Privileges.
For Rail and Steamship tickets, Sailings and Reservations, apply to

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CUT FLOWERS

Lily of the Valley, per dozen\$1.00
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A lovely assortment of

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We have the

Nicest B.C. Holly, per lb.\$1.00
Eastern Holly, per lb.50c
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HAZELTON

We Now have the town of Hazelton on the Market and can supply you with a Good Business Lot From \$300 and upwards

Here are a few of our reasons for believing that Hazelton will develop into a big city:

HAZELTON is the centre of a great mining district.

HAZELTON has large agricultural and fruit districts surrounding it.

HAZELTON is at the head of navigation from the Pacific Ocean.

HAZELTON will be the centre of branch railroads to the mining districts.

HAZELTON will be the first large point east of Prince Rupert, on the Grand Trunk Pacific.

To take advantage of this offers you must act quickly.

Do not hold back until the prices are advanced or till the business section is sold out.

WRITE, OR CALL AND SEE

The Fort George & Fraser Valley Land Co. Ltd.

HEAD OFFICE, 790 FIRST STREET, EDMONTON, ALTA.

PHONE 4173.

CUTTING GOD OUT OF THE SCHOOL IN FRANCE.

Mr. Grinton Berry, writing in The Sunday at Home, charges the Government of France with positive, deliberate and active hostility to the Christian religion. The name of God, he says, has disappeared from the text books used by the school children. For example, in a school book entitled "Le Tour de la France par deux Enfants," in the edition of 1898 the two children rest under a fir tree, they utter a prayer before they go to sleep, and then pluck up courage again. In the edition of 1908 the prayer is omitted. "The beauties of nature must raise our thoughts toward God" is the sentiment of 1898; "toward God" disappears in 1908. "Prayer gives us courage and hope" is replaced by "let us help each other." To take an instance from "Francinet," a book for middle and upper forms: "Lord give me Thy light. I am the son of Thine." My rich brother with idle hands. I am a son of God, as much as you." This prayer and this claim from the edition of 1895 be-

came in the revised version of 1909: "Raise me up, heavy toll! Ennoble me under thy rigors." My rich brother with idle hands, I am a man not less than you!" Mr. Berry also gives the following quotations, all taken from School books: "No belief concerning God, the origin of the world, the origin and destiny of man can be accepted by thinking people; all that we can do in these matters is to make suppositions." "The Gospels contain moral conceptions which shock the modern conscience." "Immortality is defined as merely the continuance of our memory in the hearts of those who loved us." "Religion is founded upon fear and upon unverifiable hypotheses."

One of the New York Astors recently followed his divorce from his first wife by marriage to another woman. The second marriage could not be legally performed in New York but was legal in the other State in which the ceremony took place. The clergyman who performed the ceremony has since been compelled by the public opinion he had outraged to resign from the ministry.

HOME AND SOCIETY

What with Christmas dinners, and Christmas presents to be done up, Christmas letters to be written and acknowledged, and Christmas visitors in town for whom parties are very much in order, the lot of the Social Scribe in holiday time is no sinecure.

The week still young (for I wrote on Thursday), is, and has been crowded with engagements. Christmas Day itself was a decidedly busy one. A few of the dinners I heard of on that day, were: Mrs. Ambrose Dickens', to which eleven guests sat down. They were: Mr. and Mrs. Jennings, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Douglas, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Dickey, Miss Gouin, Mr. King Powell, Mr. Kenneth Townshend, and Mr. Harry Christie.

Mrs. Hislop's, to which the Hon. Frank Oliver, Miss Anna Oliver, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Anderson, Major and Mrs. Jamieson, Mr. Ewart and Mr. Garrett were the invited guests.

Mrs. Scoble's, where covers were laid for nine, and the place cards, decorations, and menus were exceptionally well carried out, and original. The guests included, Mr. and Mrs. Goldwin Kirkpatrick, Mr. and Mrs. Charlesworth, Mr. and Mrs. Balmer Watt and Mr. Bruce McLeod. Later, the party went on to Madame Thibault's where they wound up with a jolly dance.

Madame Thibault had as dinner guests: Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Swaisland, Dr. and Mrs. Ferris, Dr. and Mrs. Malcolmson and Mr. Church.

Mrs. Pardee had also a dinner-dance, to which Mrs. Heathcott's dinner party went on.

Mrs. Mowat Biggar had a luncheon at noon, as had also Mrs. James Biggar, her guests, including Dr. and Mrs. Ferris, Mr. and Mrs. Wilfrid Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Heathcott, Mr. and Mrs. Bowker, and Mr. Arthur Biggar.

Mrs. Harrison had her dinner at night, followed by a delightful musical evening.

Mrs. Cautley of "Belton Lodge" had a family party, with the Messrs. Carthew and Mrs. Carthew from Belton, Eng. as additional guests.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Lines also had a merry party, but the list is endless.

Mrs. Clark Bowker leaves about the 9th of January to visit her father and mother, Senator and Mrs. Kirchoffer, in Ottawa. She will be away about six weeks.

The Lieutenant-Governor and Mrs. Buley have Miss Whiteside, Lady Principal of Brandon College, at Government House, for a holiday guest.

Dr. Scott and Mr. Morris Scott were home over the holidays, and much-expected guests at the holiday dances.

One of the smartest and jolliest dances given at the Capital this season, claimed Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Wallbridge as host and hostess on Friday night, the affair taking place in the Separate School Hall, gayly decorated for the occasion.

No doubt the near approach of Christmas infused that spirit of merriment and good cheer into the evening's enjoyment that never seems to obtain to quite the extent it does during holiday week. Certain it is the music seemed more inspiring, people looking better, and everything more contagiously happy than is the customary case, and guests, as they bade their adieus, were loud in their praises of this very "nicest dance."

The hostess herself was looking particularly well and very pretty in a most becoming frock of primrose yellow, lined de die, veiling satin of the same shade, delicate colors.

Miss Wallbridge, of Belleville, who received with the hostess, wore an unusually handsome gown of white charmeuse satin. Mr. Wallbridge was a most attentive host.

The guests included practically the whole dancing set of the Capital, and were it not that space is crowded this week, I could go into raptures over some of the belles of the dance, and some unusually beautiful gowns worn.

Mrs. Marriotts Christmas party for her little children Thursday last, attracted a number of the smallest belles and beaux from this

GARNEAU

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WHY?

It is no further from City Centre than Groat Estate.

It has already Car Service, Water, Sewer and Electric Light.

I have a large listing of this property.

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side of the river, as well as their food parents, who really enjoy, I believe, these baby parties, quite as much as the tiny folk themselves.

Of course there was a real Santa Claus, and the most scrumptious presents, and host and hostess Jr. looked as bonny as only youth can look, and the feast was a delectable one, and everyone had a lovely time.

From Edmonton I noticed, wee Mary Bowker and her mother, Mrs. Bowers and her small daughters, Mrs. Fraser and Frances and Alexander and Naomi Rebekah Watt.

Hon. Arthur L. Sifton, Mrs. Sifton, their daughter, Mrs. Clark Derris, and son Raymond Sifton, of Edmonton, with Mrs. D. Sisley and Miss Lindner, of Calgary, arrived in the city Sunday morning to spend Christmas with Hon. J. W. Sifton.—Winnipeg Free Press.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. E. Evans left on Tuesday for their home in Edmonton. Mr. Evans is still unable to walk without his crutches owing to a broken leg recently received while alighting from a train.—Winnipeg Town Topics.

The engagement is announced of Miss Helen M. Fleming, head nurse of the Brett hospital at Banff, formerly of Nova Scotia, to Dr. Harvey Brett.

Miss Seymour gave a jolly little dance for her brother, Mr. Horace Seymour, of Red Deer, on Tuesday night, who was up to spend Christmas week at home. The guests were confined to the younger set, all of whom were enthusiastic over the good time they had had.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Ritchie leave on Sunday to spend a month in New York, so that Mrs. Ritchie will not receive on her customary day next week.

Miss Marion Thompson, room 6 the Bellamy Block, will receive on Thursday next for the first time since moving into town.

Mrs. R. Percy Barnes will receive on Wednesday next, and will have her daughter, Mrs. Haylock who has been spending the Christmas holidays at the parental home, to assist her.

Mrs. Wm. Short is entertaining at the tea hour this Friday for Mrs. James Short of Calgary, who has been her guest at the Capital over Christmas week. Mrs. Short leaves on Saturday for her home.

Major and Mrs. B. J. Saunders and the Misses Saunders, who have spent two years in England and on the continent, arrived home on Saturday, all looking splendidly after such a long holiday, but delighted to return to Edmonton.

Miss Nellie Gouin arrived from Winnipeg on Sunday last, for a visit to her sister, Mrs. Ambrose Dickins.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kenneth

and their little daughter, Marian, left last week for a visit to Mr. Kenneth's people in England.

Mrs. Harold Richards has her aunt, Mrs. Macdonald Hogg, with her on a visit, and entertained at a matinee Bridge in her honor on Thursday.

The staff of the Bank of Montreal, in residence over the Bank, are giving a much-looked-forward to dance on New Year's night.

The premier events of this week, are the Military Ball Poudre, being given this evening (Thursday) by the Westward Ho Chapter of the Daughters of the Empire in the Cecil Hotel, always one of the smartest and most interesting dances of the year, and the de Pachmann Recital in the Empire Theatre on Friday, which will no doubt attract a large and brilliant audience New Year's Day, a host of diners have been arranged for, and with the dance in the evening, as? wind-up, the coming year certainly starts off at a merry clip.

Mr. Geo. Bennett, manager of the Bank of Montreal at Outlook, Sask. came up to the Capital for the holidays.

Mrs. Turnbull had a jolly dinner dance on Christmas Day, the Bank of Commerce boys being the guests of the merry party. Some of the visiting girls in town later came in to participate in the dance.

I see that Mrs. Donald McDonold was a guest at the marriage of Miss Muriel Jaques of Montreal, to Mr. Lewis Thompson of Wallaceburg, Ont., the event taking place in Montreal, where the bride's family are very prominent socially. Mrs. Kerr, of Cobourg and Miss Mabel Kerr were also among the guests.

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST NEGROES

One of the most serious complaints made by the negroes of the southern states is that they are discriminated against in matters of education. In Wilcox county, Alabama, for example, there are nearly 114,000 negro children of school age against nearly 2,000 white children, and yet for the teaching of negro children only a little over \$6,500 was appropriated while for white children over \$26,000 was set aside. That works out at 60c per head for the negroes and \$1.3 per capita for the whites. In six counties surrounding and touching Wilcox there are nearly 60,000 negro children for whose education a little over \$44,000 was appropriated in 1910, while for 18,255 whites there was allowed \$220,533.

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MUCH IN LITTLE.

A little bin best fits a little head.
A little garland fits a little head.
As my small stuff best fits my little shed.
A little hearth best fits a little fire,
A little chapel fits a little choir,
As my small bell best fits my little spire.

ROBERT HERRICK.

It is the morning of the day after.
The day after!

Last night horns tooted, the children ran riot, paper caps crowned alike folly and wisdom, youth and age. We were mad and merry, the day, the night, was enough—But this morning is clearing-up time. The toys of yesterday have to be picked up and laid aside in at least a show of order; the dear, foolish caps as I look at them now are crumpled and torn, and I wonder as I look around me and ahead, if I, I who have so much of work and deadly serious business in my life, can be the same woman who yesterday found it one long, happy play-time.

But I know that I am.

I know that the spice and the interest of living is just this same mingling of working and playing; that if life was all play and no work, or all work and no play, Jack and you or I would indeed be dull company.

There must be school hours, and recesses in between, and the people who try to run their lives on any other plan, are beaten before they set out. Fritters pure and simple, and drudges who forget that stars shine, that winds blow, flowers bloom, and that love is all about us for the taking, have alike my unmitigated contempt.

If this were all, life, a something to be spilled out in mere wantonness, or a task that was never completed, then the Lord help us all!

Thirty years have changed my view-point, and perspective in most regards, but they have left me my old childhood's capacity of doing whatever I have to do with all my might.

I can work like a black, but when I play—why then I want to play.

Eager for school, and then when the bell rings, glad to get home—there's a child's and a wise-man's religion for you.

A REMINDER OF '49.

In digging for the foundation of a new building in San Francisco recently the rotting timbers of a ship were exposed to view. This was evidently not a prehistoric vessel, but a relic of '49, that had been beached and used as a lodging house. In the height of the gold fever almost every vessel that ventured into the harbor of San Francisco was immediately deserted by its crew, eager to join in the mad rush for the goldfields. The old hulk in question was probably one of these abandoned ships.

HOW A TIE WAS BROKEN.

Among the curiosities of the late election in the United States was a tie vote for Mayor in Canton, Ohio (President McKinley's home), between the Democratic and Socialist candidates. The tie was decided, so reports state, by requiring the candidates to guess the number of grains of corn in a cup. The Democratic candidate proved the better guesser, and was declared elected.

A NEW "GET-RICH-QUICK" SCHEME.

One of the Paris papers suggests a very simple scheme for getting rich quickly—so simple that the wonder is, as Westminster Gazette remarks, we have not all adopted it long ago. You take a million cats, which will provide you with twelve million kittens in the course of a year. By selling the twelve million skins in each year a daily income of £1,800 may be secured. By way of provision for the cats, you lay in a stock of a million rats; which breed four times as freely as cats do; and thus each cat can have four rat-meals a day. The rats, of course, dine off the deceased cats after the precious skins have been removed. The cats eat the rats; the rats eat the cats; and—there you are, don't you know! Can anybody oblige us with a million cats that he doesn't want?

Maybe I am a bit biased in favor of the child's scheme of living. But what have we grown-ups to offer that betters it? To be single-purposed, wholehearted, keen, loving, and mostly kind.

To fight and make it up the next minute.

To be angry, but not malicious.

To forget. To be eager on our own business. If you and I held to that, "the morning after" we should have fewer regrets.

Do you know Browning's "Life's Purpose"?

"But what if I fail of my purpose here?"

It is but to keep the nerves at strain,

To dry one's eyes and laugh at a fall,

And, baffled, get up and begin again

So the chase takes up one's life—that's all."

"Mornings after" imply a stock-taking.

What of the night before?

For me this year few regrets. A joyous happy day around my own fireside, hosts of remembrances and good wishes from the people I love, little children to play about me, and when it was time for dinner, and I should have had to wrestle with the mysteries of preparing the feast, a cheery fairy-grandmother of an Irishwoman who "just appeared" and by magic in less than no time had a dinner fit for a king, on the table, and no dishes to wash up, and no anything but to sit around a grate-fire and give oneself up to the joy of the occasion. They say there are no fairies now, or no fairy god-mothers, or no Santa Claus. They lie.

So long as kind hearts beat, and generous impulses live, so long will I pin my faith to the blessed old traditions, and maintain that there are no hearts like Irish hearts, and nothing better in the world to believe in, than the spirits or whatever you call them, that crowd the earth-on the gladdest night of the whole 365.

Barrie knew what he was talking about when he said in Peter Pan, that the boy who said that he didn't believe in fairies, killed his own fairy. He does.

Mine lives. Praise be he always will, for the day he dies I shall know that I have lost my faith in human kindness—and that with my own hand I have murdered him.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

GERMAN COLONIAL EMPIRE.

Germany, says a writer in the Springfield Republican, became a colonial power easily and peacefully, and almost in the twinkling of an eye. It was in 1884 that the empire first embarked on a colonial policy. In 1900 it African possessions covered 931,460 square miles. England made no opposition to their acquisition. African rivalry between the two great powers did not become manifest until 1901. At that period Germany, finding it impossible to establish trading companies in Africa unsupported by a flag, advocated a policy of internationalism. Internationalism proved delusive. France and England made a convention which was intended to set it aside for the benefit of these countries in Morocco. At Algiers, in 1906, Germany succeeded in smashing that convention, but no sooner was the act of Algiers signed than it was turned by French ingenuity into worthless paper. Thereupon Germany became undisputedly imperialist in her colonial policy. Her African empire of tomorrow, as it has been sketched for me by a Belgian diplomatist, who is neither Germanophile nor alarmist, but who is in a position to know what passes in the Wilhelmstrasse, extends across Central Africa from the Atlantic to the Indian ocean, and from Lake Tchad, in the north, down to the Orange river. France's concession of the Ubangi district, with an opening on the Atlantic, is to be followed, when the opportune moment arrives, by the pre-emption of the Belgian Congo, which will join Kamerun to German East Africa, and make possible railway connection between Kamerun and Daar-es-Salaam, across the Belgian Congo, by way of Ubangi. Rio Muni is to be bought from Spain, and the empire is to be rounded off by the exercise of another right of pre-emption, that of the western half of Portuguese West Africa, which colony England and Germany are to divide, with the consent of Portugal, under the treaty of 1898.

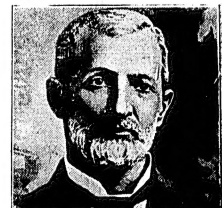
TRIED EVERYTHING WITHOUT RELIEF

Until I took "Fruit-a-lives"

SARINA, ONT., Feb. 5th, 1910.
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Finally, I read an advertisement of 'Fruit-a-lives'. I decided to give 'Fruit-a-lives' a trial and found they did exactly what was claimed for them. I have now taken 'Fruit-a-lives' for some months and find that they are the only remedy that does me good.

I have recommended 'Fruit-a-lives' to a great many of my friends and I cannot praise these fruit tablets too highly!" — PAUL J. JONES



"Fruit-a-lives" is the only natural cure for Constipation and Stomach Trouble, because it is the only medicine in the world that is made of fruit juices and valuable tonics. Hundreds of people have been cured, as if by a miracle, by taking 'Fruit-a-lives', the famous fruit medicine. It costs a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size, 25c. At dealers or sent on receipt of 10c for 'Fruit-a-lives' Literature, Ottawa.



Tenders for Supplies

Sealed tenders addressed to the Provincial Secretary, and endorsed, "Tenders for Supplies," will be received by the Department of the Provincial Secretary, Parliament Buildings, Edmonton, up to noon or Saturday the 30th day of December next, for the supply and delivery of groceries, flour, canned, etc., at the Provincial Gaol, Lethbridge, and The Hospital for the Insane, Ponoka, for, and during the year 1912, commencing on the first day of January next.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted cheque on a chartered bank for five per cent. of the amount of the tender made payable to the order of the Provincial Secretary, which will be forfeited to the Government of Alberta in case the successful tenderer refuses or neglects to enter into contract, or when entered into fails to carry out the provisions thereof.

Specifications may be seen, approximate quantities given, and form of tender supplied upon application to the Bursars of the above institutions, or to the Department of the Provincial Secretary, Edmonton.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

E. TOWNBRIDGE,
Deputy Provincial Secretary,
Edmonton, December 18, 1911.

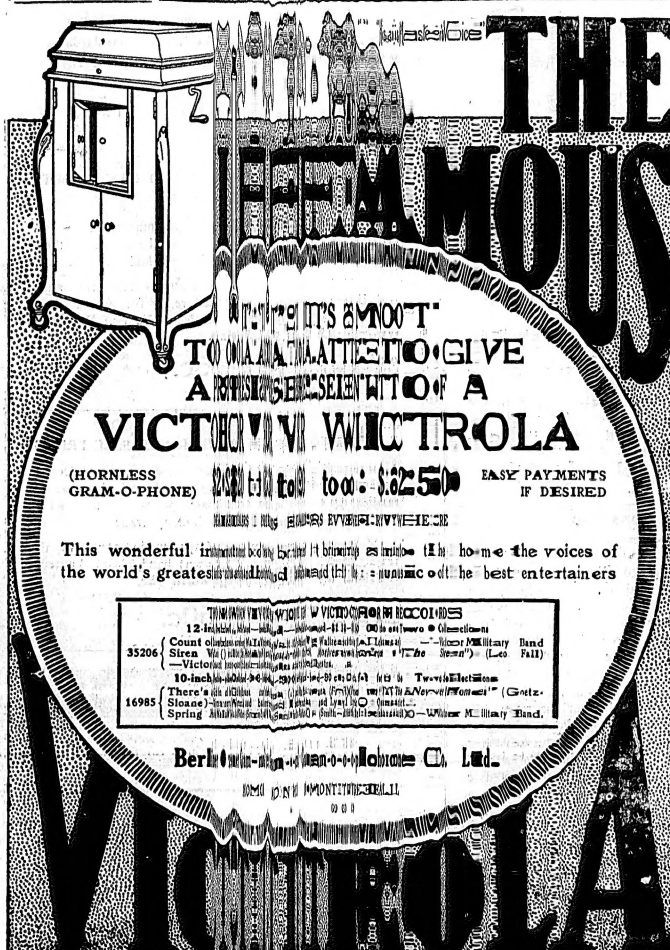
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"It was bought at Ash Brothers."

How many times in the past week you have heard the above remark—and always accompanied by that little sense of pride and confidence always felt by the proud possessor of a highly prized gift.

You can be sure it is all it pretends to be if it came from Diamond Hall, or Branch.

ASH BROTHERS

Two Stores—

DIAMOND HALL
111 Jasper Ave. W.
Branch, 350 Namayo.

The Store Of Quality

The best of everything in
**Fruits,
Vegetables, or
Confectionery**
always on hand.

We have just received a
shipment of
B.C. Celery
the finest on the market.

Everything guaranteed at
HALLIER & ALDRIDGE
Phone 1327 223 Jasper E.

Novelties in Brass

Fern Pots
\$1.00 to \$5.00
Jardiniere
\$2.50 to \$9.00
Smoking Sets
5 pieces, \$2.50 to \$5.00
Coffee Perculators
\$7.00

Jackson Bros.

237 Jasper Avenue E.
303 Jasper Av., Cor. Queens
Phone 1747 G.T.P. Watch In-
spectors
Marriage Licenses Issued

THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

Stock company theatrical managers, whose experience with the various tastes of the public leads them to form definite conclusions as to the popularity of certain plays, have a general maxim that is universal. When they want to please their audiences most with a dramatic offering, they present "East Lynne." When they want to make these same audiences laugh loudest and longest, they put on "The Private Secretary." This condition prevails in exactly the same manner in England where Mr. C. J. Bancroft, the celebrated comedian, has played to crowded houses in "The Private Secretary" for over 2,000 performances. Surrounded by his capable company, Mr. Bancroft is making a tour of America and meeting with the greatest enthusiasm in the role of the Rev. Robert Spaulding, pronounced by the great majority of theatregoers as the funniest character ever presented on the stage. Mr. Bancroft is bringing his big production to the Empire Theatre on New Year's Day.

THE MIRROR.

(Continued from Page Six.)

Half of the enjoyment of Christmas Day comes the morning after.

Then children can honestly claim their toys for their own, and grown-ups, in disposing their newly-acquired treasures in their places, pause to exclaim at their beauty, and to think tenderly of the loving hearts that held them in remembrance.

Before me are a sheaf of cards, wise, merry, and witty.

Every year I think they grow more interesting.

"World was never brighter

Than it is today;

Hearts were never lighter—

Don't care what they say.

Never mind the weather—

Get up when you fall;

We'll get there together

Singing after all."

Thus runs the sentiment on one from the President of the Canadian Woman's Press Club. Hear! Hear! I believe it.

From Winnipeg, a man I met on the Manufacturers' Association trip to Edmonton—how many years ago—assures me, that "Old Times and New Year Chimes bring memories of Olden-Friends and Olden Times."

There is the true joy of this most precious time—Looking Backward. Looking backward and yet forward. The new year should be pictured a figure at a cross-roads, marching on ahead, yet half-turned to look the way he came.

"Fortune is fickle, and ever a rover;
But friendship is friendship, all the world over,"
quotes a man and his wife from "over the river," a sentiment that finds an echo in my own heart.

But the messages are so many, the good wishes so cheery and kindly, that whether they be grave or gay, clever or just the ordinary day's greeting, indeed, and indeed—I feel that they would any of them, furnish the text for an article.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year—prosperous if you like, or I could make it for you—best, happy—I leave you with these lines on Christmas, sent to a friend of mine on a personal card.

A woman wrote me last week that my Christmas article had cheered and helped her—Same to her for her letter—This greeting should help everyone.

CHRISTMAS

For over nineteen centuries, wherever civilization has held sway, humanity has looked forward, through the vicissitudes and tumults of daily experiences, with a thrill of expectation to the coming of that day, the atmosphere of which is always radiant with kindness and good cheer; the day which prompts the old-fashioned but joyful and ever-welcome greeting, "Merry Christmas."

No matter how much joy and satisfaction may be experienced at Christmas reunions, thoughts are prone to play truant on that invisible highway of communication into vanished years, and revisit the occasions, recent and remote, of temporary and final partings. Such visitations, some of which are doubtless made more sacred than others by the peculiar and mysterious severance of binding ties, should not mar seasons of pleasure, but ought rather to mellow and enrich them, just as a passing cloud modifies the sun's rays, and renders them more enjoyable. The memory chambers of our minds would, indeed, be unadorned, if the remembrance of absent ones, whose lives had been a benediction in by-gone years, were excluded from them.

There is no doubt that the supreme desire in every mind is to some day reach the heights of human happiness, and possibly on no day in one's experience is that desire so near its fruition as when every heart is bubbling over with the Christmas spirit of generosity, and when the bestowing of gifts becomes the embodiment of the words, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

If the Christmas spirit were cherished every day instead of once a year, we would live in a perpetual burst of sunshine and good cheer. There is so much for the needs and enjoyment of humanity on this Grand Old Earth, that there is really nothing left to desire. A kind Providence has given a starry dome of blue overhead; comets for occasional visitors; the monarch of the sky by day, and the queenly moon by night, to illumine valley and plain, and gild the snow-clad peak with light; mountain storehouses for gold; iron for spanning ravines; buried reservoirs of oil and gas for lights; coal for fuel; prairies for cultivation; lakes and rivers for commercial highways; electricity for power; forests for shade; showers for mellowing the earth; clouds for tempering heat; refreshing dews for tender blossoms; a green carpet for summer and white for winter; gentle zephyrs for fevered bows; birds for melody; flowers for perfume; diamonds for adornment; fruit for food; water for thirst; and kind friends to share our joys. What a well-furnished and wonderful habitation! Surely such a variety of gifts ought to inspire humanity to grander aims and nobler purposes; and, surrounded by such magnificent opportunities, it should cause

no surprise that the grandest and most unique character that ever trod this earth, to whom multitudes do homage, went about doing good.

May bright and happy days through your future; and may the Light of Hope guide you ever.

Pegg

WHERE "PUNISHMENT FITS THE CRIME."

An edict recently issued by a leader of the revolution in China says:

Those who conceal any Government officials are to be beheaded.

Those who inflict injuries on foreigners are to be beheaded.

Those who deal with the merchants unfairly are to be beheaded.

Those who interrupt commerce are to be beheaded.

Those who give way to slaughter, burning and adultery are to be beheaded.

Those who fight against the volunteers are to be beheaded.

Those who supply the troops with foodstuffs will be rewarded.

Those who supply ammunition are to be rewarded.

Those who can afford protection to the foreign concessions are to be highly rewarded.

Those who guard the churches are to be highly rewarded.

Those who can lead on the people to submission are to be highly rewarded.

Those who can encourage the country people to join will be rewarded.

Those who give information as to the movements of the enemy will be rewarded.

Those who maintain the prosperity of commerce are to be rewarded.

SANITARY CONDITIONS AND VITALITY.

Woods Hutchinson, M.D., whose writings in the Saturday Evening Post and elsewhere have given him a Continental reputation as an authority on hygiene, says that as a result of scientific feeding in the Japanese navy the average weight of Japanese sailors has been increased by five to ten pounds, coupled with an increase in the average height. Dr. Hutchinson goes so far as to declare that scientific living would improve not only the physical but the moral conditions of the race.

On the other hand, Prof. A. E. Ross, writing in Popular Science Monthly, attributes the astonishing toughness and endurance of the Chinese to lack of sanitation, and consequent weeding out of the weak. If of ten children born the three weakest die in infancy and five more fail to grow up, the remnant will be of exceptional quality, the efficient who survive, will transmit some of their quality to their offspring. In proof of this, Ross says physicians practicing in various parts of China are positive that the Chinese physique is superior in some respects to that of white people. Surgical shock is rare among the Chinese, and they recover from operations more readily than do the people of Europe.

Some proof of this latter contention appears to be furnished by the Jews. While great care is taken by the Jews as to their meat supply, their general conditions of living, in crowded quarters in Europe, and here in Canada as well, are far below those prevailing amongst people of other races. In their surroundings there is not the same regard paid to cleanliness and other sanitary conditions that there is among people of other races. Still, Jewish children in the crowded parts of our cities at all events, both in physical and mental development, compare more than favorably with those of other children.

NOTICE

Since February of the present year, says Westminster Gazette there has been a less amount of unemployment in Great Britain than in any previous year on record. This is a marked change from two years ago, as in October, 1908, there was the highest percentage of unemployment that had been recorded in any year since accurate statistics have been kept. These facts are important in view of conditions, reciprocity having been rejected, which force Canada to depend for her export trade almost wholly on demands of the British market.

His Honor, The Lieutenant Governor, will hold a levee at Government House on New Year's Day from 4 o'clock to 6 p. m. Mrs. Bulyea will also be at Home in her private parlors during the same hours to any of His Honour's callers.

By Command,
G. H. BABBIT,
Government House, Edmonton, Secretary.
December 26th, 1911.

the cats; and—there you are, West Africa, which are to divide, with the treaty of 1898. Can anybody oblige us with doesn't want?

JOHNSTONE WALKER'S YEAR END SALE NEWS

THE YEAR END SALE OF TOYS AND BRIC-A-BRAC OF MUCH INTEREST TO ALL.

It's a grand final clearance that must sweep out every solitary article that comes under this heading.

Pictures, Blocks, Books, Trays, Brass Jardiniers, Match Holders, Candle Sticks, Dolls, and Toys.

Year End Sale Half Price

SUSPENDER ARM BAND AND GARTER SETS REDUCED

The remainder of the Christmas stock consisting of about two dozen sets must be cleaned in their season to make way for the big Mid-Winter event.

Men's Sets consisting of Suspenders, Arm Bands and Garters, neatly boxed ready for presentation. A very suitable gift for New Year's. Regularly worth \$1.50 and \$2.00.

Sale Price 95c.

AVIATION CAPS AT YEAR END SALE PRICES

Despite the fact that these beautiful Scotch wool Aviation Caps are suitable for all winter wear, must go at year end sale prices for they were bought specially for the holiday trade.

Women's Aviation Caps made of heavy all wool with double (pull down) band, closely knitted. White only. Regularly worth 75c.

Sale Price 60c.

W. JOHNSTONE WALKER & CO

Before the Year ... Closes ...

It will be advisable to look into a mirror and think about your surroundings, your business life, your transactions in whatever line of business you are. Have you clothed yourself to your advantage in the year that is nearly closed. We know a great many that have not, and would suggest a resolution that will enable you to do justice to yourself.

Resolved, That I, the undersigned, will start the year 1912 by having a suit or overcoat made at La Fleche Bros., which firm makes the kind of clothes that are a credit to the man wearing them and that give satisfaction for quality, fit, style, and workmanship.

Signed, Mr.

La Fleche Bros.

"Always Reliable"

Premature Old Age

Wilson's Invalids' Port

(a la Quina du Perou)

is THE vitalizing tonic "par excellence." It is a true tonic—not a stimulant. Hence, it restores the virile and physical powers.

Big Bottle 50c. Ask YOUR Doctor

